

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed December 17, 2004, the Examiner considered claims 1-31; however, those claims were canceled in a Preliminary Amendment filed with this application on April 16, 2004. Applicants' representative contacted the Examiner to alert him to this problem, and, after consideration, the Examiner indicated that he would withdraw the outstanding Office Action and issue a new non-final Office Action. As of the filing date of this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have not received the new Office Action.

Applicants' representative also indicated to the Examiner that there are additional changes to the claims and that those changes would be made by Supplemental Preliminary Amendment. Applicants have amended claims 41-47 and 49-55.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 15, 2005

By: 

Jeffrey A. Berkowitz
Reg. No. 36,743